29th January 1929]

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I said before, the conclusions of the conference are being considered and a Bill is being drafted on those lines."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Will the draft be ready before the lifetime of this Council ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I think the draft may be ready by the end of March."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" In view of the growth of village panchayats, is it proposed to increase the staff of the Registrar-General of Panchayats ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no such proposal at present."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. Minister to say what is the life time of this Council ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That question does not arise out of the answer on paper."

Transfer of village panchayats to the control of Revenue authorities.

*1133 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some village panchayats are being transferred to the control of the District Revenue authorities and if so, what the necessity for such transfer is ; and

(b) whether Government have received complaints that the proposed transfer of control to the District Revenue authorities has been a source of great dissatisfaction and discouragement to the panchayats concerned ?

A.—(a) Yes ; for the reasons explained in G.O. No. 1969, L. & M., dated 3rd May 1928, a copy [a] of which is laid on the table.

(b) The Government have received only a single complaint to this effect.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to clause (b), may I know if the opinions of the Honorary Organizers in the district concerned have been ascertained with regard to the transfer of the village panchayats to the Revenue authorities ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know if the Government propose to ascertain the wishes and views of Honorary Organizers in this matter ? "

The hon. Dr P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir. Government have already taken action on this. They think that a certain amount of decentralization is necessary and I do not think any useful purpose will be served by getting any other information."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know if the Government are aware that the control by the 'District Collector' virtually means the control by a clerk in his office or the Revenue Inspector, and therefore respectable people are unwilling to serve on the village panchayats under such conditions ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am sorry the hon. Member thinks so, but I think Collectors take their duties more seriously than what the hon. Member suggests."

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a Printed as Appendix XI on pages 305-307 infra.